

# Wabash Plain Dealer

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**WEDNESDAY,**  
JUNE 9, 2021

\$3

Shining light on Wabash County since 1859.

Tomorrow's weather **82** | **69** 



**Pulse**  
of Wabash

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## MSD Summer Food Program to provide free breakfasts, lunches

The MSD Summer Food Program will provide weekly meals free of charge for children ages 1 through 18 throughout the MSD area. Throughout the summer, families may pick up five day's worth of breakfasts and lunches for each child in their household that meets the age criteria from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays from June 9 to July 28 at Northfield High School, 154 W. 200 North, and Southwood High School on the east side of the building, 564 Indiana 124.

## Second Harvest to hold a tailgate food distributions

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana has planned tailgate food distributions for 11 a.m. Wednesday,

See **PULSE**, page A9

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# Tip leads to gun and drugs charges

WPD arrests Colorado man Thursday after call from a concerned citizen

By **ROB BURGESS**  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

A tip from a concerned citizen Thursday led to the arrest of a Colorado man on gun and drugs charges.

Wabash Police Department (WPD) public information officer Capt. Matt A. Benson said the caller alerted

officers to "suspicious activity" near the intersection of Cass and Sinclair streets.

Benson said WPD Patrolman Colin Gouveia arrived on the scene and located the reported suspicious person sitting in his vehicle.

"Officer Gouveia alleges that while speaking with the subject he detected an odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle," said Benson.

Benson said a subsequent search of the vehicle led to the arrest of James M. Uli-

barri, 26, of Denver, Colorado.

"Officer Gouveia reported he located a handgun in the vehicle, which was reported stolen from Colorado," said Benson.

Benson said Ulibarri was being held on a 72-hour hold in Wabash County Jail as of Friday on preliminary charges of possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia, possession of stolen property

and possession of a handgun without a license.

"Wabash Police commend the alert citizens of Wabash to report any suspicious activity in their neighborhood," said Benson.

According to court records, Ulibarri's initial hearing was held Monday in Wabash Circuit Court before Judge Robert R. McCallen III.

Ulibarri entered an initial plea of not guilty. Craig Persinger was appointed as

his counsel.

Trial dates of 8:30 a.m. Nov. 16 and 17 were set, as was a \$50,000 surety bond and \$250 in cash.

A pretrial conference was also set for 1 p.m. Oct. 18.

"A criminal charge is merely an accusation. Every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty," said Benson.

*Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at [rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com).*

# Getting back to the stage



Photos by Rob Burgess / Plain Dealer

The Manchester Civic Band's regular practices are scheduled weekly from 7 to 8:30 or 9 p.m. Wednesdays in the Manchester High School band room.

## Manchester Civic Band returns to live performance during the current season

By **ROB BURGESS**  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Last year was anything but normal for everyone, but for those who perform on stage, it was particularly difficult.

Manchester Civic Band director Samantha Howard said last summer they practiced in a barn with all of the doors open while everyone sat 6 feet or more apart.

Howard said once they did return to their regular practices last fall from 7 to 8:30 or 9 p.m. Wednesdays in the Manchester High School band room, they had the chairs marked out and distanced.

Now with their 49th year in full swing, Howard said many members of the group have been vaccinated "but not all."



The all-volunteer, amateur band was organized by Harold and Mary Lou Leckrone and their daughter, Pat Egolf, in 1972.

"Most have voluntarily disclosed their vaccination, or not, status," said Howard, on Tuesday. "I have not made a point of asking though. It has been disclosed in general conversation."

The band's first performance of the year was their annual appearance at the Memorial Day service hosted by the North Manchester American Legion Post No. 286 in Holderman Park in

North Manchester.

Howard said they typically hold three concerts per year at the Peabody Retirement Community and Timbercrest Retirement Community. This year will be no different as performances at Peabody Retirement Community have been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, June 23, Sept. 22 and Dec. 1. This year's Timbercrest Retirement Community performances have been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, June 30, Sept. 29 and Dec. 8.

Howard said they usually perform on a semi-trailer bed during the North Manchester Fun Fest parade and at Doud's Orchard Open House in Denver, Indiana. In

See **BAND**, page A9

# Kiwanis Club, Midwest Eye Consultants honor four local seniors

Self-Reliance awards highlight students who excelled 'despite hardships in their lives'

By **ROB BURGESS**  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Four local high school seniors were honored last month for showing their ability to overcome obstacles.

Wabash Kiwanis Club board member Eric Seaman said the Midwest Eye Consultants

Self-Reliance awards were given out Tuesday, May 18 during their regular luncheon at the Honeywell Room at the Honeywell Center.

Seaman said in addition to the students, their families and friends, local school administrators and staff were also invited to support the

winners.

Self-Reliance chair Beth Miller said the Wabash Kiwanis Club has administered the annual program for the past 32 years to honor "a small group of seniors who have exemplified self-reliance and excellence despite hardships in their lives."

Miller said this year, the four winners were honored with \$1,500 each, which they may use "as they see fit to

further their respective young careers."

This year's winners included Northfield Jr./Sr. High School seniors Emma Brainard, Brenton Jackson and McKenzie Roth, as well as Manchester Jr./Sr. High School senior Sheila Winger of Manchester Jr. - Sr. High School.

Miller said the Wabash Kiwanis Club received 11 applicants for the awards in 2021,

with seven semi-finalists selected after applications, essays and references were read by a committee of Kiwanis members. Those semi-finalists were then interviewed by a three-person committee from the Wabash Kiwanis Club and four finalists were selected.

"It worked really well because after our seventh

See **AWARDS**, page A9



Paul Markiewicz  
Registered Principal



Erica Markiewicz  
Registered Representative

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# Honeywell announces 2021 Summer Plaza Music Series

Annual entertainment tradition to return to Honeywell Center Carpenter Plaza

STAFF REPORT

Honeywell Arts & Entertainment’s Summer Plaza Music Series is returning to the Honeywell Center Carpenter Plaza “for another great season of family entertainment,” according to a

press release. The series will feature four performing groups from 5 to 7 p.m. every Thursday from June 10 through July 1. This year’s line-up includes: He Said She Said on Thursday, June 10: Classic rock, modern country, and pop. Chris Worth on Thursday, June 17: Rock, country, R&B, Motown, and jazz. Sparrow 5 on Thursday, June 24: Variety.

Mississinewa Valley Swing Band on Thursday, July 1: Patriotic pops The Summer Plaza Music Series is free and open to the public. Food from the Plaza Grille will be available during all performances, including burgers, hot dogs, nachos and cheese, and more. In the case of inclement weather, performances will be canceled. For more information, visit HoneywellArts.org/plaza.

# Ruoff Mortgage announces official grand opening of Wabash office

Lender hires Jennifer Meyer as senior loan officer

STAFF REPORT

Residential mortgage lender Ruoff Mortgage announced the official grand opening of a Wabash office with Jennifer Meyer as senior loan officer, according to a press release. The ribbon-cutting, open house and refreshments have been scheduled from 4:15 to 6 p.m. Thursday, June 10 at 1146 N. Cass St. Jennifer Meyer, along with Ruoff’s chief Lending officer Clint Morgan, will help over-

see operations for the Wabash office, including the hiring of additional loan officers and support staff. Meyer has been in the financial industry for 17 years. She earned her associate degree from Indiana Wesleyan. “The 37-year-old company, owned by president and CEO Mark K. Music, has seen explosive revenue and loan volume growth not only over the past year, but has been exponentially evolving into a lending powerhouse over the past several years,” stated the



MEYER

release. “The company generated \$356 million in revenue in 2020, which was up \$215 million year over year. Those gains were on top of a 2012-2019 streak of eight consecutive appearances on the INC 500/5000 Fastest Growing Companies in America list. Financial results from CY2020 have the company poised to see the streak extended as it expects to make a ninth appearance on the illustrious list. The full-service residential mortgage lender saw loan volume double as they assisted more than 30,000 individuals and families achieve their homeownership goals. Total loan volume for the year came in at \$5.6 billion.”

# Senate report details broad failures around Jan. 6 attack

By MARY CLARE JALONICK Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Senate investigation of the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol found a broad intelligence breakdown across multiple agencies, along with widespread law enforcement and military failures that led to the violent attack. There were clear warnings and tips that supporters of former President Donald Trump, including right-wing extremist groups, were planning to “storm the Capitol” with weapons and possibly infiltrate the tunnel system underneath the building. But that intelligence never made it up to top leadership. The result was chaos. A Senate report released Tuesday details how officers on the front lines suffered chemical burns, brain injuries and broken bones, among other injuries, after fighting the attackers,

who quickly overwhelmed them and broke into the building. Officers told the Senate investigators they were left with no leadership or direction when command systems broke down. The Senate report is the first — and could be the last — bipartisan review of how hundreds of Trump supporters were able to push violently past security lines and break into the Capitol that day, interrupting the certification of Joe Biden’s presidential election victory. The failures detailed in the report highlighted how, almost 20 years after the Sept. 11 attacks, U.S. intelligence agencies are still beset by a fundamental issue: a failure of imagination. The report recommends immediate changes to give the Capitol Police chief more authority, to provide better planning and equipment for law enforcement and to streamline intelligence gathering among federal agencies.

But as a bipartisan effort, the report does not delve into the root causes of the attack, including Trump’s role as he called for his supporters to “fight like hell” to overturn his election defeat that day. It does not call the attack an insurrection, even though it was. And it comes two weeks after Republicans blocked a bipartisan, independent commission that would investigate the insurrection more broadly. “This report is important in the fact that it allows us to make some immediate improvements to the security situation here in the Capitol,” said Democratic Sen. Gary Peters of Michigan, the chair of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, which conducted the probe along with the Senate Rules Committee. “But it does not answer some of the bigger questions that we need to face, quite frankly, as a country and as a democracy.”

# ‘A lot of anxiety’ for Democrats as Biden agenda stalls

By LISA MASCARO AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Hopes for a big infrastructure investment are teetering. An ambitious elections and voting bill is all but dead. Legislation on police brutality, gun control and immigration has stalled out. Nearly six months of Democratic control in Washington, the party’s progressive wing is growing increasingly restless as campaign promises go undone — blocked not only by Republican obstruction, but also by Democrats’ own inability to unite fully around priorities. The time ahead is pivotal for President Joe Biden and his allies in Congress to seize what some view as a transformative moment to rebuild the economy and reshape the country. “There’s a lot of anxiety,” said Rep. Ro Khanna, D-Cal., who had been a co-chair of Bernie Sanders’ presidential bid. “It’s a question really for President Biden: What kind of president does he want to be?” The summer work period is traditionally among the busiest for Congress, but especially sharpened this year as Democrats strain to deliver on Biden’s agenda. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer warned col-

leagues that June will “test our resolve.” Infrastructure talks are dragging, though Biden is expected to talk again Tuesday with Sen. Shelley Moore Capito, the lead Republican negotiator. But the limits of bipartisanship in the 50-50 Senate are increasingly clear. The party suffered a debilitating blow over the weekend when Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., announced his opposition to the voting bill, titled S.1 because it is a top party priority. Many Democrats view it as crucial to protecting democracy and a direct response to restrictive new voting laws being passed in Republican-led states egged on by Donald Trump, the former president. “Do I feel discouraged? Yes,” said Rep. Pramila Jayapal, D-Wash., chairwoman of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, warning of a failure to deliver on the promises. “We will lose voters for a generation.” Schumer, in setting the agenda, is challenging senators to prepare to make tough choices. But he is also facing a test of his own ability to lead the big-tent party through a volatile period of shifting priorities and tactics in the aftermath of the Trump era and the Capitol insurrection. While Democratic senators have been generating good-


will by considering bipartisan bills in the evenly split Senate, they face mounting pressure from voters who put them in office to fight harder for legislation that Republicans are determined to block with the filibuster. Democrats hold the edge in the Senate because Vice President Kamala Harris can break a voting tie. Fed up by the delays, some senators are ready to change the rules to eliminate the filibuster, which they blame for the inaction. The long-running Senate filibuster rules require 60 votes to advance most legislation, meaning as many as 10 Republicans would need to cross party lines to help Democrats achieve their priorities. Some senators propose reducing the voting threshold to 51. But Manchin, in announcing his opposition to the voting rights bill Sunday as the “wrong piece of legislation to bring our country together,” also restated his refusal to end the filibuster — for now, denying his party a crucial vote needed to make the rules change that could help advance its agenda. On Tuesday, leading civil rights figures including Rev. Al Sharpton and Marc Morial are scheduled to meet with Manchin in Washington. Biden urged them to

visit the senator to discuss the voting bill and the legislative agenda. He encouraged them to keep the conversation constructive and not put pressure the senator — at least not yet, according to a person familiar with the discussion but not authorized to speak about private


conversations. While Manchin has talked about supporting another voting bill, the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, advocates of S.1 say both pieces of legislation are needed. Biden agrees Congress should move forward with both, White House press secretary

Jen Psaki said Monday. At the same time, Democratic groups supporting S.1 vowed to continue with a \$30 million campaign pressing Democratic senators to rewrite filibuster rules and pass the bill — including with TV ads in Manchin’s West Virginia.


5-Day Weather Summary




Wednesday  
Scattered T-storms  
81 / 70




Thursday  
T-storms Likely  
82 / 69



Friday  
Few Showers  
85 / 70




Saturday  
Chance T-storms  
87 / 66




Sunday  
Partly Cloudy  
84 / 61

Sun and Moon


Today's sunset ..... 9:09 p.m.  
Tomorrow's sunrise ..... 6:15 a.m.




New  
6/10



First  
6/17



Full  
6/24



Last  
7/1

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a 70% chance of showers and thunderstorms, high temperature of 81°, humidity of 77%. Southeast wind 7 to 10 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with a 70% chance of showers, overnight low of 70°. South southeast wind 2 to 8 mph.

## IN BRIEF

**Wabash native named to SRU spring 2021 dean's list**

Slippery Rock University has announced its dean's list for the spring 2021 semester, including Eden Craig, of Wabash, according to a press release. The dean's list consists of SRU undergraduate students who earned an

adjusted semester grade-point average of 3.5 or higher, based on a schedule of at least 12 newly attempted and earned credits.

**Wabash VFW Post No. 286 to hold tenderloin dinner Friday**

The Wabash Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post

No. 286 will host a tenderloin dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, June 11 at 3678 W. Old 24, according to Dan Ford. The menu will include hand-breaded tenderloin, French fries and a choice of coleslaw or pasta salad. The cost is \$9 per person. It will be open to the public. Carryout will be available. For more information, call 260-563-2463.


# U.S. identifies 3,900 children separated at border under Trump

By ELLIOT SPAGAT Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The Biden administration said Tuesday that it has identified more than 3,900 children separated from their parents at the U.S.-Mexico border under former President Donald Trump’s “zero-tolerance” policy on illegal crossings, providing one of the more detailed accounts of a chapter in U.S. immigration history that drew widespread condemnation. The Biden administration’s Family Reunification Task Force count of 3,913 children separated from July 1, 2017, to the end of Trump’s presidency is well below the more than 5,500 children identified by the American Civil Liberties Union in court filings, based on government information. The task force said it identified “nearly all” children who were separated under the zero-tolerance policy but will review another 1,723 cases since July 2017, which would bring total cases examined to 5,636, close to the ACLU tally. The discrepancy appears to stem largely from a federal court ruling in San Diego that excluded 1,723 children who were separated for reasons other than Trump’s zero-tolerance policy, such as risk of child endangerment or questions about parentage. The task force will also try to determine if children

were separated during the first six months of Trump’s presidency, starting in January 2017, which was outside the scope of the ACLU lawsuit. That could raise the final number. Of the 3,913 children, 1,786 have been reunified with a parent, mostly during Trump’s tenure, parents of another 1,695 have been contacted and the whereabouts of 391 have not been established. Many who have been contacted were released to other family members. The Biden administration has vowed to reunite parents who are still apart from their children, but the pace has been slow and it is unclear how high that number will go. The first four parents were returned to the United States last month, part of what the task force identified as an initial group of 62 people — 28 from Guatemala, 20 from Honduras, 13 from El Salvador and one from Mexico. Administration officials say 29 of the 62 have received final clearances to return to the United States, which should occur after travel arrangements are made. Lee Gelernt, deputy director of the ACLU’s immigrant rights project, said he wished the reunifications had happened more quickly but welcomed the Biden administration’s efforts. “We believe the negotiations we’re having with the administration are con-

structive and being held in good faith,” Gelernt told reporters. “Our hope is now they’ve put in a process for reunifying people it can be scaled up.” Gelernt said families not only need to be reunited but provided mental health and support services and compensation. For now, reunited families are being allowed to remain in the United States on a temporary basis, but the ACLU wants the administration to give them a more lasting solution, he said. “It’s not a permanent status,” he said. “That is foremost in the negotiations.” The report provided data that hadn’t been previously released. Nearly 60 percent of children separated under the zero-tolerance policy were Guatemalans (2,270), followed by Hondurans (1,150), Salvadorans (281), Mexicans (75), Brazilians (74) and Romanians (23). The Border Patrol’s Yuma, Arizona, sector recorded the highest number of separations of the agency’s nine sectors on the Mexican border with 1,114. The Rio Grande Valley in Texas, which dominated media attention as the busiest corridor for illegal crossings by far, was second with 1,025 separations. The El Paso, Texas, sector, which was site of a trial run of the policy in 2017 that was not publicly disclosed at the time, was third with 982 separated children.



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# Obituaries

## Letting our young people down

You may have heard by now about Paxton Smith, the high-school valedictorian in Texas who switched out her expected speech to decry the recent heartbeat law passed in that state, which

**Kathryn Lopez**



restricts abortions early on in pregnancy. “I have dreams and hopes and ambitions,” she said. “Every girl graduating today does. ... And without our input and without our consent, our control over that future has been stripped away from us.

“I am terrified,” Smith said, “that if my contraceptives fail, I am terrified that if I am raped, then my hopes and aspirations and dreams and efforts for my future will no longer matter. I hope that you can feel how gut-wrenching that is. I hope you can feel how dehumanizing it is, to have the autonomy over your own body taken away from you.”

This dear, sweet girl. The dehumanizing thing is a culture telling her that her natural ability to bring life into the world is anything but amazing. How many ways have we failed her as a society? Sex is presented as something so casual, as if akin to watching something on Netflix or TikTok. Starbucks in the morning, sex at night.

And what on Earth is going on with boys that rape is in the forefront of her mind? We all know why, of course. The drinking and hook-up cultures make the possibility more likely than not. As the #MeToo movement became a thing, a friend of mine said he was grateful nothing of the sort had ever happened to his wife or daughters. I told him to ask them. Many of us have been there in one way or another; but we’re looking in the wrong place for solutions.

One wife and mother responded to a video of part of Smith’s speech on Twitter. After noting how sad it all is, she wrote: “What the hell are we selling our kids? Children – they don’t make

women less-than. They don’t stand in your way. They aren’t a barrier to your dreams. Abortion isn’t some great equalizer. The act of killing an unborn human does not make the world better for women.”

We’re not mad at the young woman, we’re mad at the adults, schools and culture that have failed her. She thinks her freedom and success are contingent on the availability of birth control. That’s a lie. There’s freedom in choosing something better for yourself, to know that you don’t have to prove your beauty or power to yourself or anyone else by having as much sex as you please.

I know it’s so quaint as to be insane to modern sensibilities, but saving sex for actual self-sacrificial love in marriage could be so crazy it’s worth trying. We don’t tell girls that they are worth waiting for anymore. Is it ever presented as an option? Even some religious books in Catholic schools are not presenting a compelling case for what love truly is. And it shouldn’t just be in a religious context.

The fact of the matter is, we are rational beings with the capacity for discipline, which can be a source of tremendous joy. Talk to some of the young Catholic couples who got married during COVID, even though they couldn’t have the full-on parties that we’re accustomed to. It was worth the wait, and marriage is that important.

Smith thinks her happiness in life depends on contraception and abortion. Abortion is not just an expectation, but a routine. You realize it when you spend any time around abortion clinics – they think abortion is the responsible thing. Is that what they would want for their children? Why aren’t we setting young people up for actual joy instead of managing miseries?

*Kathryn Jean Lopez is senior fellow at the National Review Institute, editor-at-large of National Review magazine and author of the new book “A Year With the Mystics: Visionary Wisdom for Daily Living.” She is also chair of Cardinal Dolan’s pro-life commission in New York. She can be contacted at klopez@nationalreview.com.*

## Tearful reunion after mom saw AP photo of daughter at border

**By ACACIA CORONADO**  
Report for America/Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Six years had passed since Glenda Valdez kissed her toddler goodbye and left for the United States – six years since she held Emely in her arms.

But here she was, at Texas’ Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, tearfully embracing the little girl she left behind. And it happened only because she had glimpsed a televised photo of Emely, part of an Associated Press story on young people crossing the Mexican border alone.

“I love you so much,” she whispered in Spanish in her 9-year-old daughter’s ear. “My God, thank you.”

It was a fairy tale ending – for the moment – to a complicated story, one that began in Honduras and with an unhappy relationship, according to Valdez, 26.

Emely’s father, she said, was absent and did not provide for them. When Valdez emigrated in pursuit of a better life, the girl was left in the custody of Valdez’s mother. But Emely’s father took her back.

Valdez said she only had sporadic contact with her daughter – the father preferred that they not speak regularly. Every so often, Valdez would get a video

call; eventually, Emely told her that she had a new step-mother who was not kind to her.

Emely told her that her father – seeing that she was unhappy with her life in that household – had decided to send her away, without telling her where. He placed her in the care of an adult who over several weeks helped her journey to the U.S.-Mexico border.

Around midnight as the day turned to May 13, Border Patrol agents encountered Emely in La Joya, on the Texas side of the Rio Grande Valley. She had been walking in the brush for six hours with a group of strangers and had lost a shoe in the mud. She was sobbing uncontrollably.

“I was thirsty and we didn’t have anything to drink and I didn’t like it and I didn’t know where I was going,” Emely said in Spanish on Sunday.

When the agents found her, she said she had lost her mother’s number, and did not know where her mother lived. Desperate, she gave reporters details she thought might identify her mom: “Her hair is curly, but sometimes she straightens it. And she has a lip ring.”

Her mother was expecting her, she said. But Valdez said Sunday she had no idea her child had been sent to cross the border.

### Nokie Ruth Vigar

May 30, 1946 – June 6, 2021

Nokie Ruth Vigar, 75, of Akron, Indiana, died 3 am, Sunday, June 6, 2021, at her daughter’s home in Logansport, Indiana. She was born on May 30, 1946, in Varney, West Virginia, to Arthur and Arizona (Culver-son) Varney.

Nokie married Curtis Vigar on April 13, 1964, in Wabash County, Indiana. She died Oct. 6, 1986. She worked at BioMet in Warsaw, Indiana, retiring after more than 20 years. She was a member of the Athens Community Church in Rochester, Indiana. Nokie enjoyed vacationing, gambling, flowers, working in her yard, and especially spending time with her family. Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren were her pride and joy.

She is survived by six children, Jacquetta “Jackie” (Matt) Mannies of Logansport, Rod (Diana) Vigar of Akron, Terry Randall (Jane) Vigar of Roann, Indiana, Jerry (Janet) Vigar of Akron, Rhonda (Jeff) Robins of Denver, Indiana, and Barry (Kristi) Vigar of Macy, Indiana, 14 grandchildren, Philo Mannies, Tyrel Mannies, Megan Hammond, Lauren Vigar, Lydia Vigar, Lakin Wood, Laci Stuber, Layne DeLauter, Benjamin Vigar, Dakota Robins, Taylor Robins, Destiny Vigar, Tylor Cone, and Bryer Vigar,



several great-grandchildren, two sisters, Coetta (David) Steward of Kendallville, Indiana, and Betty Maynard of Lodi, Ohio. She was also preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, Gerald Varney, Arthur Varney, Jr., and Alvis Varney, two sisters, Carol Varney and Wille-ta Fields, and brother-in-law, Bud Maynard.

Funeral services will be 10 am, Friday, June 11, 2021, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service – Roann, 335 S. Chippewa Rd., Roann, with Rev. Luke Vasicek officiating. Burial will be in Falls Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 4 pm – 8 pm Thursday, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorial is Athens Community Church.

The memorial guest book for Nokie may be signed at [www.grandstaff-hentgen.com](http://www.grandstaff-hentgen.com).

### Dwight Dean Adams

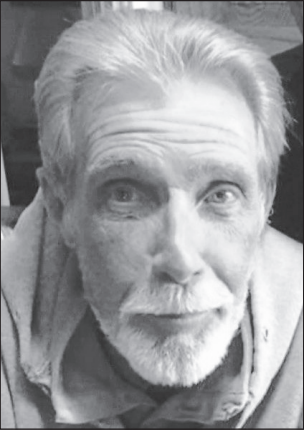
May 6 1951 – May 30, 2021

Dean Adams, 70, of Wabash passed away May 30 at Parkview Hospital in Wabash after a long illness due to COPD. He was a lifetime resident of Wabash. He was born May 6 1951 to Harry Jr and Clara Adams. Both deceased. His twin brother David of Sacramento CA survives.

Other survivors include nephew James Borelli Nashville TN and nieces Barbara Boese of Portage IN, Katherine Dick (Adams) of Sacramento CA, aunt Phyllis Price (Charles) of Somerset. Cousins, Shelia Dennison, Marilyn Griffith, Tracy Kline, Tammy Ellet all of Wabash, Kristi Price, of Indianapolis, Brad Price of Lafayette, Glenn Adams, Russiaville, James Collins, Woodbridge VA. Dean was formerly married to Anne Miller of Wabash who also survives.

He was a 1969 graduate of Wabash High School. A carpenter by trade. He was employed locally by Yarnelle Lumber and Todd Bear Construction among others. He was a member of Local 615 United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.

He was a 50 year member of Elks Lodge 471 Wabash. He was named Elk of the Year for 2001-2002 and 2007-2008. He was recog-



nized within the Elks as Lecturing Knight 2001-2002 and Loyal Knight 2003-3003.

Dean was a kind and gentle person who was always ready to help others and those in need. He was patient and trusting of others. He always had a smile and kind word. His carpentry skill was his greatest asset. He enjoyed performing quality workmanship. He enjoyed the card room at the Elks. He loved to cook a great meal for friends and relatives. He really enjoyed being near friends and relatives. His smile and personality were a gift he shared with all who came in contact with him.

After cremation a memorial will be held in his honor at the Elks Lodge 471 in Wabash June 14, 2021 at 6 pm. Memorial contributions may be directed to Elks.

### Van Alan Hauptert

Van Alan Hauptert, 69, North Manchester, Indiana passed away June 6, 2021.

The memory of Van Hauptert will be cherished by his wife, Terri Hauptert; sons, Chris (Amy) Hauptert and Patrick Hauptert; daughters, Jennifer (Chris) Odle and Sarah (Chris) Thompson; brother, Michael Hauptert; sister, Susan (Rodney) Warren; ten grandchildren

and one great-grandchild.

Calling June 11, 2021 from 2 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 State Road 114 West, North Manchester. Funeral Saturday, June 12, 2021 at 11 a.m. the North Manchester First Brethren Church, 407 North Sycamore Street. Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

### James Edward ‘Jim’ Rosen

Oct. 1, 1937 – June 4, 2021

James Edward “Jim” Rosen, 83, of rural Urbana, Indiana, went to be with his Lord and Savior at 7:19 am, Friday, June 4, 2021, at Parkview Wabash Hospital. He was born on Oct. 1, 1937, in Huntington, Indiana, to Sherman and Isabel (Schenkel) Rosen.

Jim was a 1956 Urbana High School graduate. He married Janet Hartsough on Sept. 4, 1965; she died Dec. 28, 1982. He later married Connie (Clark) Story on Dec. 19, 1993; she died March 28, 2018. Jim was a retired farmer and member of St. Paul’s County Line Church in Andrews, Indiana. He was also a member of the Wabash County Farm Bureau, Wabash County Pork Producers, and served 12 years on the School Board of the Metropolitan School District of Wabash County. Jim’s favorite hobbies were farming and 4H, and he also enjoyed wintering in Cape Coral, Florida.

He is survived by three children, Jay (Nicole) Rosen of Lafayette, Indiana, Jon (Beth) Rosen of North Manchester, Indiana, and Jama Fry of Fort Wayne, Indiana, two step-daughters, Vicki (Steve) Furnas of McCordsville, Indiana, and Roxanne Hauptert of North Manchester, thirteen grandchildren, Jayden Rosen of Waco, Texas, Jayla Rosen of Lafayette, Indiana, Kennedy (Nick) Wagner, Dyson Rosen, and Tucker Rosen, all of North Manchester, Gunnar Fry, Leah Fry, and Olivia Fry, all of Fort Wayne, Ryan



(Michelle) Hauptert, Tara Hauptert, and Lisa (Dan) Sarll, all of Wabash, Derek (Tracy) Furnas of McCordsville, Indiana, and Stephanie (Jonathan) Basile of Indianapolis, Indiana, 12 great grandchildren, sister-in-law, Claudia Rosen of Urbana, and his brother-in-law, John (Ann) Hartsough of North Manchester. He was also preceded in death by his parents, sister and brother in-law, Bette and DeWayne Fitch, and his brother, Lowell “Shorty” Rosen.

Funeral services will be 10:30 am, Thursday, June 10, 2021, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Rev. Larry Ray officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery, Servia. Friends may call 3-8 pm Wednesday, and one hour prior to the service, Thursday, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorial is St. Paul’s County Line Church.

The memorial guest book for Jim may be signed at [www.grandstaff-hentgen.com](http://www.grandstaff-hentgen.com).

### Layker Halston Hentgen

June 1, 2021 – June 7, 2021

Layker Halston Hentgen, infant daughter of Nickolas Steven and Kourtney Lee (Kast) Hentgen, of Wabash, Indiana, was called home to be with Jesus and her big brother Kye, at 6:23 pm, Monday, June 7, 2021, at Parkview Regional Medical Center in Fort Wayne. She was born on June 1, 2021, in Wabash.

She is survived by her parents, Nickolas and Kourtney Hentgen, sister, Adaleigh Nickole Hentgen, and brother, Hayes Nickolas Hentgen, all of Wabash, grandparents, Steven & Jane Hentgen of Wabash, and Kraig and Helen Kast of Tell City, Indiana, great-grandmothers, Maxine Hentgen of Roann, Indiana and Barbara Kast of Tell City, aunts and uncles, Alexander (Madison) Hentgen of Fishers, Indiana, and Kayleigh (Greg) Chain of Cloverport, Kentucky, and cousins, Brailyn Froehlich

and Dylan Chain, both of Cloverport. She was preceded in death by her brother, Kye Hendrix Hentgen who died June 7, 2020, aunt, April Marie Kast, Great Grandpa Hentgen, Great Grandpa Kast, Great Grandma and Grandpa Ingle, Great Grandma and Grandpa Ewing, and Great Great Grandpa Noble.

Funeral services will be 2 pm, Friday, June 11, 2021, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Rev. Nathan Whybrew officiating. Entombment will be in Chapel of Remembrance Mausoleum at Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 4-7 pm Thursday, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorials are Wesley Academy or Wabash Little League.

The memorial guest book for Layker may be signed at [www.grandstaff-hentgen.com](http://www.grandstaff-hentgen.com).

### Robert ‘Bob’ J. Janick

April 12, 1938 – June 6, 2021

Robert “Bob” J. Janick, 83, of rural Silver Lake and formerly of Justice, Illinois passed at 9:15 am, Saturday, June 6, 2021 at his residence.

Bob was born on April 12, 1938 in Chicago, Illinois to the late Joseph and Margaret (Petek) Janick. He was married April 28, 1962 in Chicago, Illinois to Joan Strepek, she survives.

Following his wishes no services will be held at his time.

The arrangements have been entrusted to Hartzler Funeral Home 305 West Rochester Street Akron, Indiana.

Donations can be made in Robert’s memory to the Cycle Conservation Club of Michigan 116 Wolcott St, Allegan, MI 49010.

### Donald and Mary Heeter

Graveside services for Donald and Mary Heeter will be held at Laketon Cemetery on June 12, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. with a Celebration of Life immediately following at the American Legion Post in Laketon, Indiana.

## Indianapolis ends COVID-19 mask mandate for fully vaccinated

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indianapolis ended its mask mandate for people fully vaccinated against COVID-19 on Tuesday, hours after the City-County Council approved a measure easing numerous pandemic restrictions.

The Democratic-majority council passed the new public health order Monday evening on a 19-5 party line vote, with Republicans opposed because the measure didn’t fully lift all pandemic

restrictions.

Despite lifting its mask order, Indianapolis businesses may choose to require masks on their property and masks are still required in hospitals and on public transportation in Indiana’s capital.

The change means residents who received their final vaccine shot at least two weeks ago are not required to wear masks in public areas.

Indianapolis is aiming for a 50 percent vaccination

rate in order to fully reopen, Virginia Caine, director of the Marion County Public Health Department, told the council. Last week, the county’s vaccination rate stood at about 36 percent.

“Those of our residents who have chosen to receive the COVID-19 vaccine can now safely remove their masks in most public settings. This is truly a milestone for the Indianapolis community,” Caine said.

Indianapolis’ new order

eases numerous pandemic restrictions, including allowing religious services and funerals, as well as community pools, to open to 100 percent capacity. Social gatherings increased from 50 to 500 people, and bars, restaurants and nightclubs can operate at 75 percent capacity indoors.

Gov. Eric Holcomb ended Indiana’s statewide mask mandate in early April while keeping mask requirements in place for schools and state buildings.



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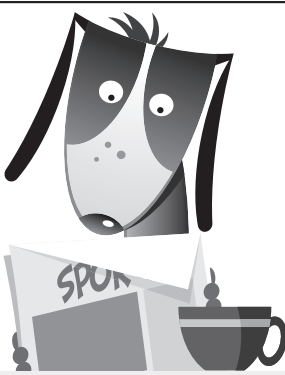
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610 S. Adams St.  
between 1pm - 3pm daily.  
EOE

0900

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF WABASH  
IN THE WABASH CIRCUIT COURT  
CAUSE NO: 85C01-2106-37-000045  
IN RE THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF:  
BILLY EUGENE DILLON, Deceased  
NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION  
Notice is hereby given that on the 4th day of June, 2021, CATHY ANN DILLON was appointed personal representative of the unsupervised estate of BILLY EUGENE DILLON, deceased, who died on the 6th day of May, 2021.  
All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.  
Dated at Wabash, Indiana, this 4th day of June, 2021.  
/s/Lori J. Draper (SEAL)  
LORI DRAPER, Clerk  
Wabash Circuit Court  
Attorney for the Estate:  
R. P. Fisher  
FISHER & IRELAND  
65 West Canal Street  
Wabash, Indiana 46992  
HSPAXLP.06/09,06/16/2021

0900

LEGAL NOTICE OF DUKE ENERGY INDIANA, LLC'S  
STANDARD CONTRACT RIDER NO. 67  
CREDITS ADJUSTMENT  
DUKE ENERGY INDIANA, LLC ("Duke Energy Indiana") hereby provides notice that on or about June 24, 2021, Duke Energy Indiana will submit an update to its Standard Contract Rider No. 67, Credits Adjustment ("Standard Contract Rider 67") to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission ("Commission") for approval under the Commission's thirty-day administrative filing procedures and guidelines. Standard Contract Rider 67 provides the rate adjustment to 1.) refund the IGCC Tax Incentives, 2.) amortization of Excess Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes resulting from the Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017, 3.) implement Step 1 and Step 2 rate changes from the Duke Energy Indiana's retail rate case, 4.) 2020 reconciliation, and 5.) refund depreciation expense for the Gallagher Plant retirement.  
Standard Contract Rider 67 is applicable to all Duke Energy Indiana retail electric customers. This submission is expected to be approved approximately thirty days after filing, unless an objection is made. Any objections may be made by contacting the Secretary of the Commission, Mary M. Becerra or Barbara A. Smith or Randall C. Helmen of the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor at the following addresses or phone numbers:  
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
101 W. Washington St.  
Suite 1500 East  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-3407  
317-232-2703  
Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor  
PNC Center  
115 W. Washington St.  
Suite 1500 South  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
317-232-2494.  
Duke Energy Indiana, LLC  
By: Stan Pinegar, President  
HSPAXLP.06/09/2021




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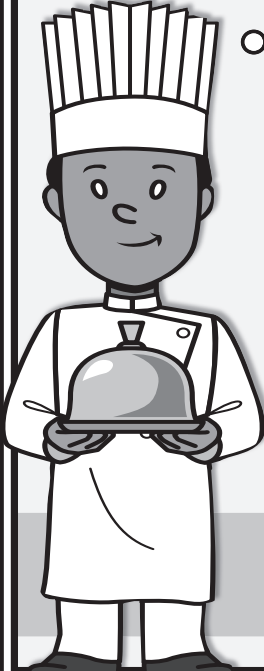
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# Mother can't stand daughter's girlfriend

**DEAR ABBY:** My college senior daughter, “Lisa,” insists on inviting her “significant other” to every holiday and to our home when she’s on break. This is Lisa’s first girl/girl romance, and she thinks she’s in love. This girlfriend has zero personality and adds nothing to our family dynamic. None of us can stand her. How can I nicely explain to my daughter that although she feels one way, we feel another? She honestly thinks she’s going to marry this girl and is VERY pushy when it comes to inviting her wherever we are. Also, this girlfriend is only going into her junior year. She has two more years of school left. Once Lisa graduates this year, she will be five hours from the girlfriend.

She makes my daughter very weird and not in a good way. I’m praying this relationship will end after she graduates. It’s horrible. If the girl isn’t with her, Lisa calls her 10 times a day. Help! – Mom Knows Better In New Jersey

**DEAR MOM:** Be patient. Because of the circumstances you mentioned in your letter, there is a good chance your daughter’s fixation on her “first love” will lessen. I assume that when she returns from college she will be socializing with other people. Cross your fingers and gently encourage it, because it may give her a different perspective. Absence does not always make the heart grow fonder.

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I have been together for 18 years (married for 14). He has recently been hanging around a female friend who supposedly made a move on him while I was away, but he said he turned her down. He sends her private messages, looks her up on social media and “likes” every photo she puts up. Most of them are sexy. Now he wants to try new things in the bedroom. Should I be concerned? I have an uneasy feeling about this.

When I told him I was going to confront her, he got upset with me. He has deleted messages because he said he didn’t want me to get the wrong idea if I read them. I’m not sure how I should be feeling about this whole thing. – Something’s Up In New York

**DEAR SOMETHING’S UP:** Right now you should be “feeling” your husband’s relationship with this female “friend” is a threat. There’s nothing innocent about deleting conversations that he knows would give you the “wrong” idea. His preoccupation with the sexy photos she is posting is hardly reassuring, and that he suddenly wants to try “new things” in the bedroom is a huge red flag in light of what else is going on.

Quietly talk to a lawyer about what your options are as a wife of 14 years in New York, gather as much financial information as you can, and then raise holy heck with your husband. You have a right to be upset.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been with this man for more than 20 years and we still haven’t tied the knot. When I told him that because I’m not his wife, I’m not willing to do wifely duties anymore, he got really upset. Do you think I should give him an ultimatum? – On Hold In California

**DEAR ON HOLD:** I think you already have!

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.Dear-Abby.com](http://www.Dear-Abby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

## Dear Abby



### ACROSS

- 1 Heel
- 4 Horde
- 7 Flip a coin
- 11 Blue or green
- 12 Withstand
- 13 Far East
- 14 Is, for them
- 15 Legend
- 16 Metro area
- 17 Cramped
- 19 Penned
- 21 Watched
- 22 Snead or Shepard
- 23 Father of Seth
- 26 Port near Hong Kong
- 30 Authorize
- 34 Down with the flu
- 35 Checkout scan
- 36 Move abroad
- 39 Lays off food
- 42 Snakes lack them
- 43 — Claire, Wis.
- 45 With, to monsieur

### 48 Chases fly balls

- 50 Fish hawk
- 52 Hi's spouse
- 53 Lend a hand
- 55 Issa —
- 56 Fix potatoes
- 57 Pipe bends
- 58 That, in
- 59 Rushed
- 60 River inlet
- 61 German article

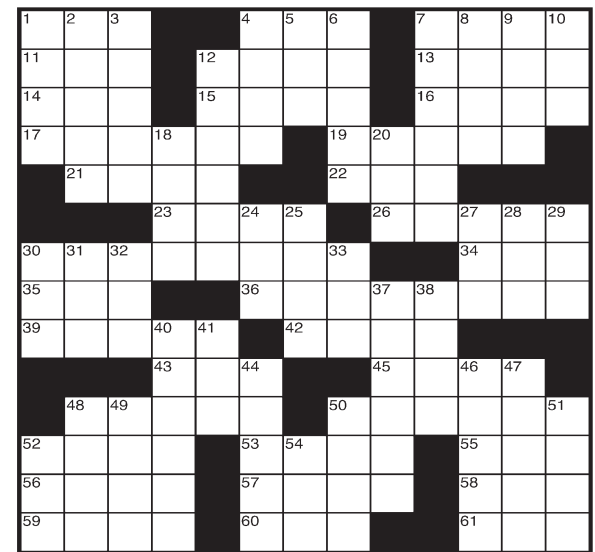
### DOWN

- 1 Chinese dynasty
- 2 Mystiques
- 3 Steel plow inventor
- 4 Tabby's sound
- 5 Rower's need
- 6 Concocts
- 7 Puget Sound port
- 8 Not include
- 9 Over-indulge

### Answer to Previous Puzzle



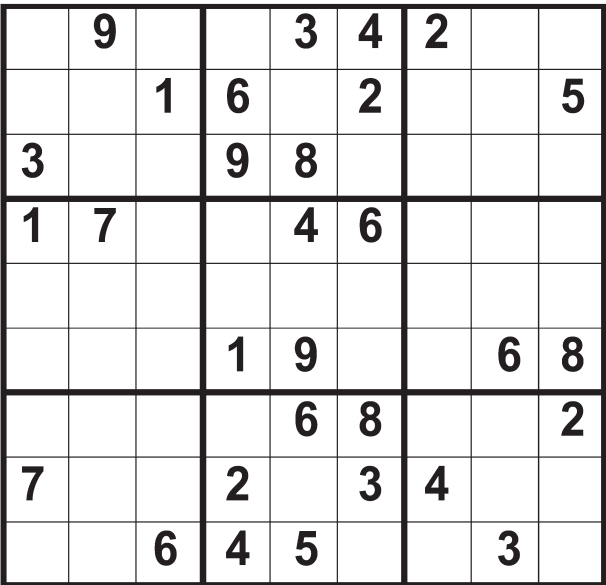
- 10 Not sociable
- 12 Not brunette
- 18 Caboose's place
- 20 Ewe's mate
- 24 Lemon cooler
- 25 Wordless actor
- 27 KGB counterpart
- 28 Hgt.
- 29 "Hurrah!"
- 30 "— Wieder-sehen"
- 31 Tax pro
- 32 Vaccine aunts.
- 33 Aunt, in Madrid
- 37 Takes hold of
- 38 Invitation addendum
- 40 Pestered in fun
- 41 Droop
- 44 Seat formally
- 46 Made a typo
- 47 Stop
- 48 Shower bar
- 49 Add staff
- 50 Earthen jar
- 51 Subscription term
- 52 DJ's platters
- 54 Pharmacist — Lilly



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## SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆



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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION								
3	6	2	8	4	5	1	9	7
8	4	1	3	7	9	6	2	5
9	5	7	2	6	1	4	3	8
4	9	8	6	2	7	5	1	3
7	3	6	1	5	8	2	4	9
2	1	5	9	3	4	8	7	6
5	7	9	4	8	2	3	6	1
6	8	4	7	1	3	9	5	2
1	2	3	5	9	6	7	8	4

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PREIG

RDLEE

NOHHOC

TLLEYA

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“ - - ”

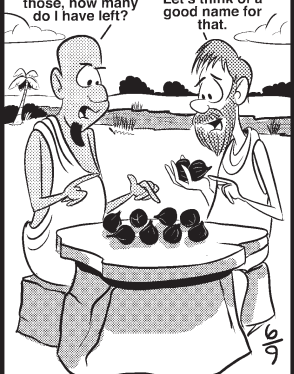
(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: POISE DRESS INFORM SPORTY

Answer: The termite and cockroach that got together after work were — “PEST” FRIENDS

## THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



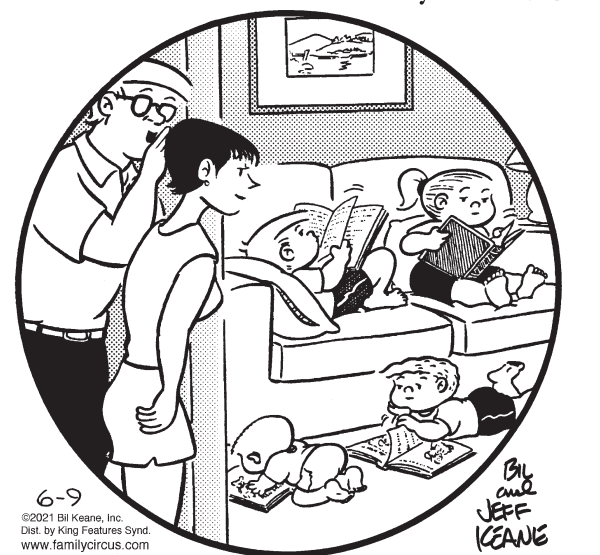
So, if you take those, how many do I have left? Let's think of a good name for that.

THE NUMBER THAT EQUALS 10 MINUS 2 DIDN'T EXIST UNTIL IT WAS ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



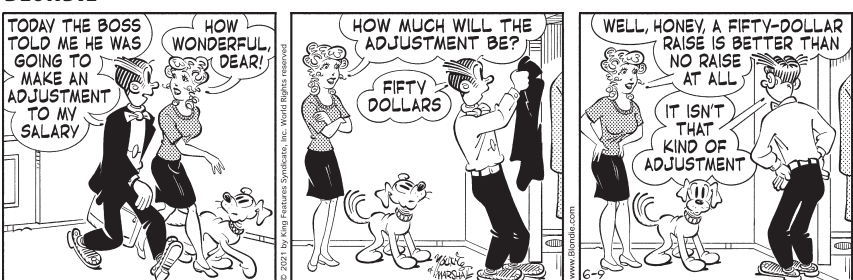
“It's the sound I love to hear — pages turning.”

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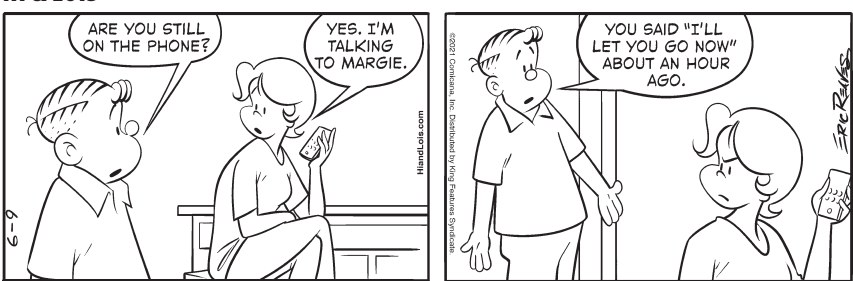
## BEEBLE BAILEY



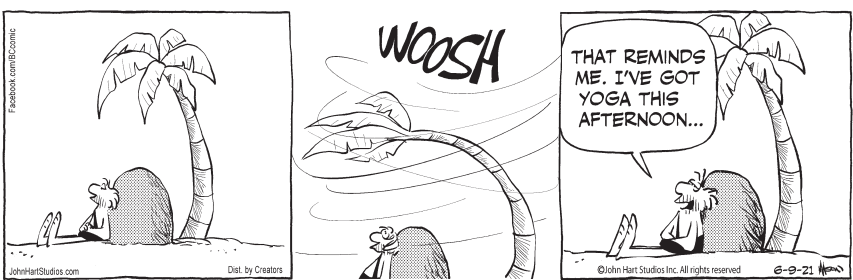
## BLONDIE



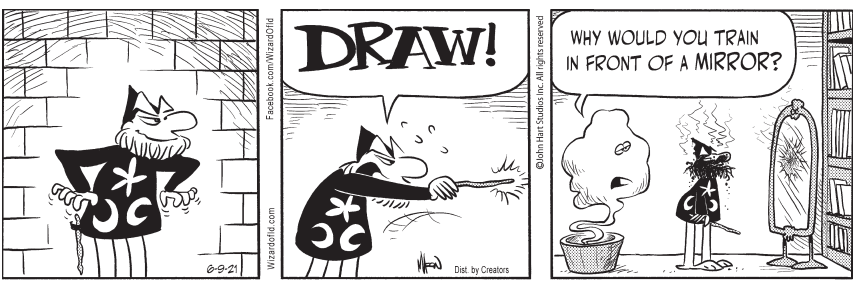
## HI & LOIS



## BC



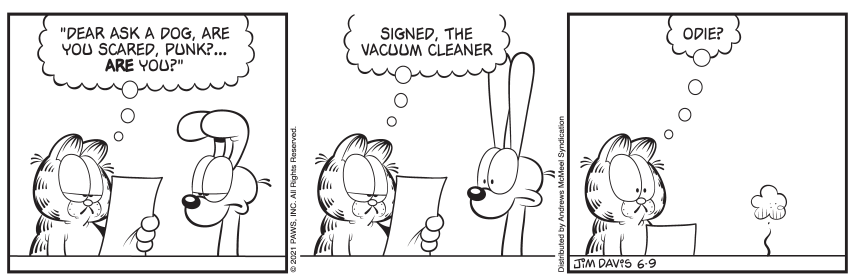
## WIZARD OF ID



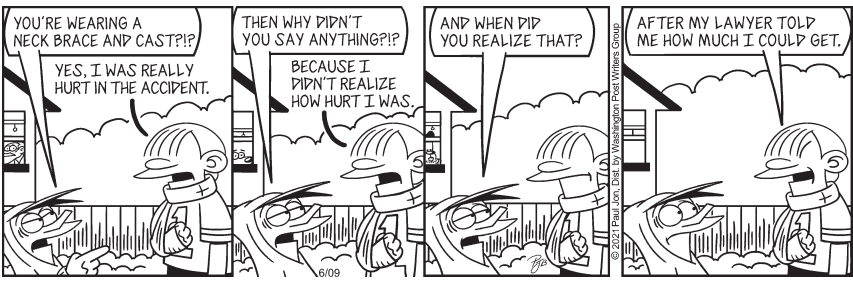
## DILBERT



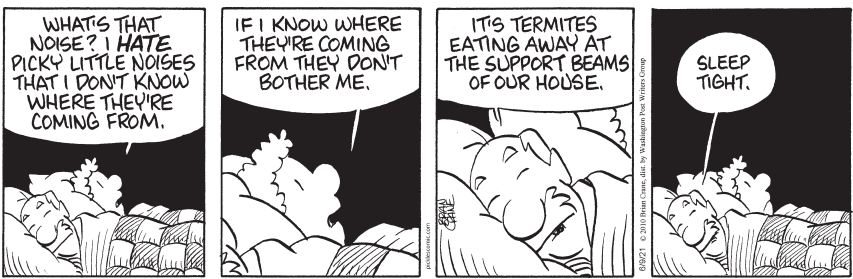
## GARFIELD



## FORT KNOX



## PICKLES



# The fight against aging and death begins at birth

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

**Q:** Someone told me that we can “think” ourselves into old age. My mind tells me I’m still young but with each birthday I know that is not true. What can I do to prepare for being old? – A.P.

**A:** From the moment a child is born, the fight against aging and death begins. The mother devotes years to protecting her child. In spite of her loving care, the child has already begun to die. The tangible signs of aging happen. The dentist will check the decay of our teeth. Glasses will be needed to help improve our fading vision. Skin will wrinkle and sag; shoulders will droop and steps become slower and less sure. The brittleness of the bones increase and energy

fades. Relying on health and life insurance to cushion the blow proves we’re running a race thinking we can outwit the opponent called the aging process. Almost without realizing it, we’ve begun to move closer to death.

Everyone living today will be dead a hundred years from now, or very close to death. So we are faced with the question: Is old age only a cruel burden that grows heavier as the years go by, or can there be something more?

Someday life will be over, no matter how much atten-

tion is given to staying fit and healthy. More important than keeping the body healthy is to prepare the soul for eternity with the Lord Jesus Christ. Too many nourish the body and starve the soul.

God has conquered death for us through His finished work on the cross. But He requires each person to confess and renounce sin and turn by faith to His Son, Jesus Christ. When this happens, a soul is born again, and in spite of the body that grows old, the soul is filled with hope and eternal joy.

## CELEBRITY CIPHER

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“Z P G T Z C P Y F Y M C U , X P M W B , G R Y R  
W H O I Y D B Y M T G T Z B L F B M G B T O B Y R ,  
U P H J T P V , R G C C G T Z G T Y D B O C H M B . ”  
— T Y C Y D G B F P M C W Y T

Previous Solution: “History does not long entrust the care of freedom to the weak or the timid.” — Dwight D. Eisenhower

TODAY'S CLUE: M s n b e A



# Opinion

## SPEAK UP

How to contact  
your legislators:

**U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.**  
B33 Russell Senate  
Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
1-202-224-5623  
<http://young.senate.gov/contact>

**U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.**  
B85 Russell Senate  
Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-4814  
<http://braun.senate.gov/>

**U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2**  
419 Cannon House  
Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-3915

**State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17**  
Indiana Senate  
200 W. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
1-800-382-9467  
[Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov](mailto:Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov)

**State Rep. Craig Snow, R-District 18**  
Indiana House  
200 W. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
1-800-382-9841  
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To email any  
Indiana lawmaker,  
go to this website:  
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## LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to [news@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:news@wabashplaindealer.com) with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



## DAILY SCRIPTURE

For the Son of Man came  
to seek and to save the lost.  
**Luke 19:10**

# COVID-19 exposed truths that we can no longer ignore

Since the magnitude of the threat from a new strain of coronavirus became apparent early in 2020, California, the nation and the world have endured a massive upending of daily life. More than 170 million coronavirus cases, a likely undercount, have been confirmed globally, and more than 3.7 million people have died of COVID-19 – nearly 1 in 6 of them in the United States and more than 62,000 here in California.

The virus has devastated families; the economic shock from the pandemic and the resulting stay-home orders put more than 20 million people out of work and cost more than \$17 trillion in economic activity. Then there are the psychological tolls of financial insecurity, tens of millions of parents pressed into service as adjunct schoolteachers, and people enduring significant life events – marriages, births, deaths of loved ones – without the close embrace of family and friends.

There is no silver lining in this cataclysmic event. But to move forward, America must recognize the fractures, weaknesses and inequalities in many of our systems. We must move from toxic individualism toward collective uplift. We need to recognize the role of genocide and slavery in perpetrating systemic racism, while also pursuing policies that help all vulnerable families, who disproportionately bore the brunt of the pandemic. We must renew faith in expertise and science, which enabled the lifesaving vaccines that now must be distributed worldwide. It is imperative that the nation address – not merely acknowledge – the realities we cannot afford to ignore.

There's a lot to analyze. Members of the Los Angeles Times editorial board, each of whom has expertise in specific areas, have delved into some of these issues in signed editorials below that offer insights, suggestions

and prescriptions for reimagining how California and the nation do certain things.

A major lesson driven home by the pandemic is that our economic system disproportionately rewards wealth while treating workers as disposable parts of a business plan rather than as people with inherent dignity and value. Our unemployment insurance system needs to be broadly re-thought, and instead of doling out fractions of income to those thrown out of work, we should devise plans to help businesses keep workers attached to their jobs during short-term downturns while better positioning workers whose jobs are gone for good to pivot to new hiring opportunities.

About half of Americans get their health insurance through their employers, feeding a system of vast inequality and leading to a dark irony of the pandemic: Millions of suddenly unemployed people lost the employer-provided health insurance they would need if they caught the virus that tossed them out of work in the first place. Universal coverage is essential, though we recognize that getting there will require moving through a particularly thorny political briar patch; the state ought to at least start by offering a public option for health insurance.

We need a healthcare system that people can count on, that does not impoverish them just because they fall ill, and that does not keep them tethered to their jobs. Access to healthcare should be a fundamental human right, and we need to search for models that are cheaper and more comprehensive than the current one, in which profit margins and motives are built into nearly every level of care.

But there is far, far more to be considered, and to be done. We need comprehensive access to affordable

child care so that parents aren't forced to choose between a paycheck and their child. We need to better prepare for the next pandemic by knitting a stronger and a more reliant social safety net. We need to craft stronger preparedness plans, including stockpiling critical materials such as personal protection devices for healthcare providers, and then follow them.

We need to reimagine criminal justice not solely as a system of vengeance and punishment but to help our fellow Californians to live better, healthier and safer lives while protecting society from those whose problems and behaviors make them too dangerous. We need to address the disproportionate impact of the virus – as well as broad environmental risks – on people based on their economic status and living and working conditions.

We need to recognize that old models of work life are propelled more by inertia and corporate culture than by the needs of businesses or workers. We have been reminded of what the skies can look like when our commuter cars collectively spew fewer of the lung-irritating particulates and the greenhouse gases that are fueling the rise of global temperatures.

Our pollution problems, of course, don't begin and end with air. Our consumer economy has also become an economy of disposability, where the convenience of single-use plastics outweighs their environmental impact, consumer goods are excessively packaged, household products seem planned for premature obsolescence and marketers exhort us constantly to toss out what we have in favor of next year's model. We need to produce less linearly – raw material into goods sold to consumers then sent to landfills or, occasionally, recycled – and focus more on a cir-

cular approach, with less waste and longer-term support for still usable products.

Our educational system has bowed under the stresses of the past 18 months, an experience that reinforced how unequal the system can be. As schools return to in-class instruction, we should look at how to better align educational practices and expectations with the world in which we all live, including reassessing our reliance on college degrees both as an end result of education and as an expectation in the workforce.

People should not have to drive themselves into debt for educations that exceed their needs and those of employers. At the same time, people who want those advanced educations should be able to access them at less onerous costs.

Even before the pandemic, Los Angeles in particular faced a dismayingly persistent problem with homelessness that only worsened as more people lost work and housing. We must find better ways to ensure that people in good times and bad have safer options at night than a piece of cardboard under the stars. Recognizing a right to housing is a good place to start.

Overall, the nation has learned a lot from confronting some uncomfortable truths during this pandemic, and we are continuing to learn. It is a daunting task, to be sure, to remake significant portions of society and governance, particularly in an era in which facts too often are seen as malleable, faith in government is weak, and too many political leaders traffic in lies, manipulations and gamesmanship instead of the business of governing.

But it is a task we must undertake nonetheless. We will be a better country for it.

*This editorial was first published in the Los Angeles Times.*

## LETTERS

### Dangerous Afghanistan withdrawal

The planned withdrawal of all U.S. and European troops from Afghanistan by Sept. 11 will probably allow the Taliban to reconquer Afghanistan and impose a strict Islamist regime within the country, and establish terrorist organizations devoted to attacking the United States.

The Taliban followers are terrorists who are aligned with Al-Qaida, and they are the same groups who have launched terrorist attacks in the world over the past 30 years, including the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks in the United States.

We need to keep adequate military forces in the region outside of Afghanistan to counter Taliban and Al-Qaida moves in Afghanistan and to keep them off balance to prevent attacks against us. Approximately 3,000 U.S. troops should be based on the Arabian peninsula in case they are needed as a quick reaction force. U.S. Special Forces in the region will probably have to be beefed up.

We need ground assault aircraft available in Saudi Arabia and the UAE. Additionally, a squadron of B-52s should be based in the region.

A U.S. Navy carrier battle group and an amphibious assault force must be deployed in the region to provide the capabilities for air bombardment and missile attacks as necessary.

The Taliban are the enemy and must be treated as such.

**Donald Moskowitz**  
Londonderry, New Hampshire

### Armenia responsible for the deaths of two journalists

On Friday, June 4, two Azerbaijani journalists, Siraj Abishov and Maharram Ibrahimov, and a municipal government official, Arif Aliyev were killed in an Armenian-placed landmine blast in the recently liberated Kalbajar district of Azerbaijan, which was illegally occupied by Armenia from 1993 to 2020.

Furthermore, it is important to note that upon the withdrawal of the Armenian army from the occupied Kelbajar district in November 2020 in accordance with the provisions of the ceasefire agreement signed on Nov. 9, 2020, Armenia systematically destroyed civilian infrastructure by burning houses, cutting trees, knocking down power lines, killing livestock they could not take with them and planting landmines in order to inflict as much damage as possible to the Azerbaijani servicemen and civilians returning to their homes after a three-decade exile.

**Naida Khalilova**  
Fort Wayne



## Where are the workers?

By **KYLE MAY**

Employers in Wabash County are casting a wider net to fill their labor needs and are considering relocation to scale their operations. Regionally, there is a similar picture. The 11-county northeast Indiana labor force has decreased by 10,000 people or two percent and this trend has greatly increased the competition for workers, especially skilled labor, around Wabash. In a candid interview with the Imagine One 85 planning team, a local business owner expanded on the challenge.

"We're on the cusp of scaling our operation right here in Wabash County, but the limitations or the risks we see have to do with people. We need skilled operators and we're looking farther and farther and offering more and more," they said.

There is a strong, demonstrated link between economic output and the vitality of the local labor force.

Population decline further stresses the system, as young people – especially those with a college degree – migrate to other communities. Considering the majority of new jobs in the county (59 percent) come from business start-ups, this out-migration is troubling. Additionally, while the unemployment rate quickly recovered from a COVID-19 high of 16.5 percent back down to 4.5 percent, the labor force participation total (those actively employed or looking for work) has fallen at a faster rate than the population: from a high point of 18,400 in 2002 to just over 15,000 in 2021. This nearly 20 percent decrease is six times the regional decline and twice the population decline. The impacts to small businesses are just as acute, shares Brian Howenstine, owner of True Value Hardware.

"It doesn't really matter if you have a big production business or a small shop, it's all about people. If I can't find reliable labor, I can't turn that sign every morning. The problem here is the change is so slow. We almost don't notice the decrease. But, I can tell you, if you've tried to hire a staff, you get it. You see it and you want to be part of the process to reverse it," said Howenstine.

Demographics are an added challenge. In 2020, 26 percent of the County's jobs were held by people over the age of 55. In critical industries such as manufacturing and agriculture, which account for over 3,000 jobs combined and more than a third of the county's employment, more than 30 percent of workers are over the age of 55. This pending wave of retirement has the potential to add to labor scarcity, especially in two of the county's most productive sectors.

Opportunity exists, however, with the out-commuters. Regional competition for workers is intense, and businesses are hiring from farther and farther. Cheap gas prices and limited home building have led to a rise in the ultra-commuter, or those commuting more than 50 miles one way. Among county residents in the workforce, 37 percent commute more than 25 miles, and nearly 22 percent commute over 50 miles. Wabash County is a net-exporter of labor, and nearly 7,800 people who live in the community work outside. At the same time, local businesses are filling their needs from the region, with more skilled trades being imported from outside. There is the capacity to capture more of this labor within the county if the skills, pay, and opportunities align.

Imagine One 85 is a process to

confront the population challenge head-on.

Through direct engagement with the community and stakeholders and in-depth analysis of the county's conditions and trends, the Steering Committee is working to develop a strong and visionary plan to help lead the communities of the county toward growth. A recent presentation by the group revealed that the county would need to grow by 85 new families or households each year to recapture its previous population high in 25 years. The "485" initiative is emerging as a central recommendation of the work, with strategies focused squarely at the challenge. Increasing the population alone will not directly address the labor force challenge. If, however, the "485" initiative succeeds in attracting younger and talented people to the community, it may greatly bolster the workforce, and thereby the economy.

On Wednesday, July 14 the Steering Committee will host an event to explore the challenges and potential of Wabash County. The Imagine One 85 Growth Summit will be a unique and interactive moment for community members to share and make a direct impact on their community. The meeting will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. on the Honeywell Plaza and include food and entertainment highlighting the best of Wabash County. Attendance is free and registration is available on the project website, [www.imagineone85.org](http://www.imagineone85.org).

*This is the second in a multi-part series developed to share the major findings of the Imagine One 85 analysis and community conversations. For more information on the content or reports please contact Imagine One 85 project manager Kyle May by email at [kyle@planning-next.com](mailto:kyle@planning-next.com). The full series will also be shared on the process website, [www.imagineone85.org](http://www.imagineone85.org).*



## Northfield uses extra innings to win semi-state

Kyra Kennedy's key hit helps lead Norse to victory

By CLAY MAXFIELD  
Wabash Plain Dealer Freelance Reporter

A picture-perfect ending occurred for Northfield's varsity softball team after a walk-off single in the bottom of the 11th inning Saturday to win the Norse their first semi-state championship over Cowan High School 3-2.

Cowan led until the bottom of the seventh when Northfield tied the game up two all and used timely strikeouts and defensive play throughout the remainder of the game to hold off the 12th ranked team in the state.

Northfield head coach Brandon Baker noted that his team's ability to pull through in tough games has been their calling card throughout the season.

"We fought the whole game," Baker said. "That's one thing that we had done all year is fight, scratch claw, never give up. It would have been very easy to feel sorry for ourselves after giving up two in that first down and then we just locked it down."

The Norse similarly started their championship game as their semi-final game when they fell behind 2-0 after the first inning. The Blackhaws used a triple and a grounder to first to notch the first runs of the game.

Abigail Hunter was a force on the mound when she pitched her second game straight on Saturday, striking out 15 batters in 11 innings pitched.

Hunter had 20 total strikeouts on



Senior Kyra Kennedy finished as Northfield's hero as well as an offensive leader on Saturday after tallying six hits and three RBIs.

the day after pitching 18 innings. In the championship game, Hunter threw 140 pitches and finished with 96 strikes in the win.

"Unbelievable, to do what (Abigail Hunter) did in the heat like this. To pitch almost three complete games in a day, unbelievable. She's fighting through a sore back and she did a great job and she never gave up," Baker said.

Northfield's first score of the game came in the bottom of the fifth when Kyra Kennedy singled on a fly ball to second base.

They went two more innings before tying the game with a line drive to center field from Kennedy for the Norse's second score of the contest.

Afterward, Baker wanted his team to savor their victory before turning their sights to their state championship game against Clay City on Saturday, June 12 at Center Grove High School.

"Enjoy this moment. Let me worry



The Norse raise the semi-state trophy.

about everything else and hopefully, we can keep rolling," he said.

With the game tied at two-all, senior Kyra Kennedy took to the plate with one out and bases loaded. A grounder to second base from Ken-



A picture-perfect ending occurred for Northfield's varsity softball team after a walk-off single in the bottom of the 11th inning Saturday to win the Norse their first semi-state championship over Cowan High School 3-2.

ments before she had stepped to the plate for the game-winning hit.

"I was just thinking; I have to get this hit down no matter what," Kennedy said. "Don't be nervous, there's only one out, just put your eye on the ball and swing through it."

Kyra Kennedy finished as Northfield's hero as well as an offensive leader on Saturday after tallying six hits and three RBIs.

"At the beginning of the season, we had a little bit of a rough start but as teammates, we've all come together as one and overcome all of our difficulties. ... We've been working so hard to get here. It's just an honor to actually get to our goal," Kennedy said.

### NORSE 3, BLACKHAWKS 2

Cowan 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 2 12 2  
Northfield 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 - 3 9 2

Clay Maxfield, Wabash Plain Dealer freelance reporter, may be reached by email at [sports@wabashplainedealer.com](mailto:sports@wabashplainedealer.com).

## Northfield overtakes South Central in softball semi-finals

Norse knocked off the Satellites with a 5-3 final score

By CLAY MAXFIELD  
Wabash Plain Dealer Freelance Reporter

On Saturday, Northfield's varsity softball team used three runs in the fifth inning to defeat top-ranked South Central High School, 5-3.

The Norse trailed 3-2 going into the fifth inning but their game-high 12 hits propelled them to a semi-final victory and earned them a championship berth against Cowan High School later that evening.

Northfield head coach Brandon Baker credited his team's ability to continue fighting after getting down early in the semi-final matchup.

"What a group of fighters," Baker said. "It would have been very easy to get our head down and think it's the number one team in the state (South Central), we don't have a chance but we kept fighting and fighting. Took good approaches at the plate and strung together hits."

South Central started the game off by putting Northfield on their heels with a solo home run in the first inning. Later in the second, the South Central Satellites scored off of a hard grounder to center field and took a two-run lead.

The Satellites tallied seven hits while the Norse's Abigail Hunter gave the opposition fits from the pitcher's mound, striking out five batters in seven innings pitched.

The pitching approach from South Central's Holly Noveroske was an area of focus for the Norsemen throughout the week leading up to Saturday's game.

"Exactly what we practiced. Our approach at the plate was phenomenal. We knew that she (Holly Noveroske) was going to provide the power, so we just had to get the bat there quick," he said.

Northfield got on the board for the first time in the bottom of the second when Addi Baker hit a ground ball to left field for a single and the Norse's first score of the



Photos by Clay Maxfield / Plain Dealer

On Saturday, Northfield's varsity softball team used three runs in the fifth inning to defeat top-ranked South Central High School, 5-3.



Kyra Kennedy led the team in hits with three.



Norse fans cheer on their team Saturday.

game.

Addy Rosen tied the game in the third with a line drive to right field for a Northfield score.

Kyra Kennedy led the team in hits with three while Kenzie Baer finished with two hits and two RBIs.

In the moments leading up to Northfield's comeback inning, Baker preached staying the course to his time to shift the momentum.

"We told them we're hitting, we're on it," Baker said. "We just got to string something together and they did a phenomenal with their approach and with their effort."

After trailing by a single run

going into the fifth, Northfield caught fire offensively. First, off of a grounder to short from Kenzie Baer for two runs followed by a line drive from Addy Rosen to center field on the ensuing at-bat to put the Norse up by two.

The Norse shut out South Central in the next two innings as Northfield knocked off South Central High School with a 5-3 final.

### NORSE 5, SATELLITES 3

South Central 1 1 0 1 0 0 0 - 3 7 1  
Northfield 0 1 1 0 3 0 X - 5 12 2

Clay Maxfield, Wabash Plain Dealer freelance reporter, may be reached by email at [sports@wabashplainedealer.com](mailto:sports@wabashplainedealer.com).

## Southwood baseball team's season ends in regional play

Tristin Hayslett struck out four batters in their semi-final loss

By CLAY MAXFIELD  
Wabash Plain Dealer Freelance Reporter

Southwood's varsity baseball team had their season ended at the hands of the Fort Wayne Blackhawk Christian Braves on Saturday, 5-1.

The Knights of FWBC scored two runs in the fourth inning and put enough space between themselves and Southwood for the remainder of the game.

Southwood head coach Warren Dailey felt that the game was out of their reach early on despite their game plan.

"I felt like our game plan was pretty solid," Dailey said. "It was one of those games, it felt like it didn't matter what you did, you weren't going to win it. It had that feeling to it a little bit. Obviously, we were competitive throughout but it just didn't go our way."

Southwood's Cole Winer gave the Knights their only run of the game when he had a line drive to center field for a single and batting in Koby Thomas for the score.

Winer tallied the team's only RBI while tallying one of Southwood's three hits for the game while FWBC finished with seven hits total.

Southwood also notched three errors for the game.

Despite the loss, Dailey credited his six seniors as the blueprint for a successful 2021 season.

"Overall I'm extremely pleased. I knew we had a team that had a chance to



Photo by Patrick R. Murphy / Rochester Sentinel

During the regular season, Southwood faced Tippecanoe Valley on Thursday, May 20.

make a run. I heard it all season from teams we played to umpires all season. ... When you look back at everything, overall I'm pleased with the season. I think a lot of that is attributed to we had a core group of seniors," he said.

The game slipped out of Southwood's grip in the fourth when FWBC doubled on a line drive to center field followed by a single to notch two more scores on the board.

Tristin Hayslett struck out four batters in their semi-final loss on Saturday.

The Knight's season ended with a final record of 22-7 along with a first-place finish in the Tree River Conference with a record of 8-1.

Southwood's season was highlighted by a sectional run against the likes of Northfield (6-2), Caston (9-1) and Pioneer in which the Knights

defeated the Panthers 4-0 for a sectional championship.

The Knights also rolled through an entire month of the regular season undefeated when they went on a 13 game winning streak.

With three Southwood seniors graduating, Dailey praised his upperclassmen and the ways they had impacted the program for the years to come.

"They were priceless," Dailey said. "You wait for a group like this. ... That group of seniors, they meant the world to what we were doing and that was the message I left the guys with. Learn from this, try to leave the program better than you found it like the seniors did."

Clay Maxfield, Wabash Plain Dealer freelance reporter, may be reached by email at [sports@wabashplainedealer.com](mailto:sports@wabashplainedealer.com).

## SCOREBOARD

NBA	
<b>SECOND ROUND (Best-of-7)</b>	
<b>Monday, June 7</b>	
Brooklyn 125, Milwaukee 86, Brooklyn leads series 2-0	
Phoenix 122, Denver 105, Phoenix leads series 1-0	
<b>Tuesday, June 8</b>	
Atlanta at Phila.	
L.A. Clippers at Utah	
<b>Wednesday, June 9</b>	
Denver at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m.	
<b>Thursday, June 10</b>	
L.A. Clippers at Utah, 10 p.m.	
Brooklyn at Milwaukee, 7:30	
<b>Friday, June 11</b>	

Phila. at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.	
Phoenix at Denver, 10 p.m.	
<b>Saturday, June 12</b>	
Utah at L.A. Clippers, 8:30 p.m.	
<b>Sunday, June 13</b>	
Brooklyn at Milwaukee, 3 p.m.	

<b>Tuesday, June 8</b>	
Tampa Bay at Carolina	
Vegas at Colorado	
<b>Wednesday, June 9</b>	
Boston at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30 p.m.	
x-Montreal at Winnipeg, TBA	
<b>Thursday, June 10</b>	
x-Carolina at Tampa Bay, TBA	
Colorado at Vegas, 9 p.m.	
<b>Friday, June 11</b>	
x-N.Y. Islanders at Boston, TBA	
x-Winnipeg at Montreal, TBA	
<b>Saturday, June 12</b>	
x-Tampa Bay at Carolina, TBA	
x-Vegas at Colorado, TBA	
<b>Sunday, June 13</b>	
x-Montreal at Winnipeg, TBA	



**BAND**

From page A1

addition, Howard said they had tentatively scheduled performances for 5:30 p.m. Saturday, June 26 for alumni at Pierceton Elementary School, this year’s Independence Day celebration at Manchester University; Saturday, July 31 at the North Manchester Summerfest parade; and Saturday, Oct. 2 for a concert at Harvest Fest. Howard said the all-volunteer, amateur band was organized by Harold and Mary

Lou Leckrone and their daughter, Pat Egolf, in 1972. “After Harold’s passing in 1987, the band leadership transitioned and eventually Reg Smith took the baton,” said Howard. Howard said after 30-plus years directing the band, Smith decided to step back. Now Howard is “setting the beat.” “We gladly welcome any musicians from junior high age on up and any instruments,” said Howard. “Don’t worry if it has been a while since you played, many of us came back to the band

after decades of not playing. Don’t have an instrument? We may be able to help in locating one for you to use, rent or maybe even buy.” Howard said as they are a volunteer organization the numbers fluctuate. However, Howard said at their last concert in 2020 they had 10 members, including two flutes, one clarinet, one alto sax, one tenor sax, two trumpets, one trombone, one tuba “and myself directing.” *Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplainealer.com.*

**MICROFILM**

From page A1

cases that must be retained that were microfilmed. On Monday, Indiana Archives and Records Administration deputy director Claire Horton said they were forced to change their previous procedures due to logistical concerns. “In the interest of space constraints and clear physical and intellectual control, we will no longer accept microfilm that still belongs to other offices,” said Hor-

ton. “We will continue to accept and encourage microfilm transfers. However, the title to all microfilm transferred to the Indiana State Archives after May 4 will transfer to the Indiana State Archives, as has always been the case with paper records.” Horton said this was in line with Indiana Code 5-15-5.1-11 and is already stated on the microfilm transmittal paperwork. “However, we recognize that some of the microfilm previously transferred to the Indiana State Archives

was done so with the understanding that the county office would retain ownership,” said Horton. Horton said all county offices have until June 30 to decide if they would like to retain ownership of this microfilm. “Any film retained by the county will continue to be stored in the Indiana State Archives’ vault for as long as we have space to do that,” said Horton. *Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplainealer.com.*

**AWARDS**

From page A1

semi-finalist left the room after interviews, the three of us talked really briefly because we had four very clear winners who separated themselves from the rest,” Miller

said. “This is a really impressive group of young people and all for very different reasons. The independence, maturity and excellence that these four have shown in the early years of their lives should be commended and celebrated, which is exactly what we did today. Thank

you to Dr. Greg Garner and Midwest Eye Consultants for sponsoring this program yet again.” Miller said this is the fourth year Midwest Eye Consultants has presented the awards. Midwest Eye Consultants president and co-founder

Garner also currently serves as a board member with the Wabash Kiwanis Club. “It’s been such a rewarding experience presenting these awards in recent years,” Garner said. “You hear these stories of what these young people have gone through in their young lives and to be

as successful as they are as soon-to-be high school graduates, they are the definition of self-reliant. We know these young women and man are going to go far and we’re happy to not only recognize them but also give them an award to help them also succeed moving forward.”

Except for the sons and daughters of Wabash Kiwanis Club members and employees of Midwest Eye Consultants, all high school seniors in Wabash County are eligible to compete for these awards. *Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplainealer.com.*

**PULSE**

From page A1

June 23 at Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 2147 Indiana 15; and noon Wednesday, June 9 at Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St, North Manchester. For more information, visit [www.curehunger.org](http://www.curehunger.org), [classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182](http://classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182) or <https://www.givepulse.com/group/203410>.

**Salamonie Preschool offers ‘B is for Berry’ program**

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool’s “B is for Berry” on Wednesday, June 9 at 3691 S. New Holland Road, Andrews. Children ages 2 to 5 and their adults are welcome to attend the class from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Salamonie Interpretive Center located in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, Andrews. The program fee is \$2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling Upper Wabash Interpretive Services at 260-468-2127.

**WACCY Golf Outing hitting the greens June 9**

Registration is now open for Grow Wabash County’s annual WACCY Golf Outing on Wednesday, June 9 at the Honeywell Golf Course, 3360 Niccum Road. Registration is \$360 per four-person team, which includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, access to a catered lunch from Miller’s Merry Manor and the chance to win a whole assortment of games and prizes. This year’s outing will offer a morning session – with a 7:30 a.m. start – and afternoon – with a 1 p.m. start – flights on a first-come, first-serve basis. There will be a limit of 18 teams per flight. For more information, visit [www.growwabashcounty.com/waccy2021](http://www.growwabashcounty.com/waccy2021), email marketing@growwabashcounty.com or call 260-563-5258.

**NMPL plans summer reading events**

North Manchester Public Library (NMPL) summer reading events have been planned, including activities on the KenapocoMocha lawn: From 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 9; Outdoor Family Bingo: 6 p.m. Friday, June 11; Roz Puppets on the NMPL lawn: 1 p.m. Wednesday, June 16; Chillz Event: From 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 30; NMPL Pool Party: From noon to 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 7; Activities at the North Manchester Farmer’s Market: From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 17; Slime Spectacular on the NMPL lawn: From 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 21; and Little Book Shop on Market Street: From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, July 30; and Saturday, July 31. For more information, visit [www.nman.lib.in.us](http://www.nman.lib.in.us).

**Art Studio Trolley No. 85 tour on sale**

The Art Studio Trolley No. 85 Tour will take place from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 12, is \$30 per person, and will begin at the Visit Wabash County Welcome Center, 221 S. Miami St. Tickets for the Art Studio Trolley No.85 Tour are \$30 per person and are all-inclusive. Payment is due upon registration. To purchase tickets

online, visit [www.visitwabashcounty.com/trolley-tours](http://www.visitwabashcounty.com/trolley-tours), stop in the Welcome Center at 221 S. Miami St., or call 260-563-7171.

**Pancake Day planned for June 12**

The Wabash Kiwanis Club’s Pancake Day 2021 event will take place from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 12 at the newly renovated Bruce Ingraham building at the Wabash County Fairgrounds, located just off of Gillen Avenue. Pancakes, with or without blueberries, will be available, along with sausages and drinks. Tickets will be \$8 at the door and \$7 in advance for adults 13 years and older and \$5 at the door and \$4 in advance for children ages 6 to 12 years. Admission for the event will be free for children 5 years and younger. Sponsorship opportunities for businesses for Pancake Day are available by email at [donnasiders@hotmail.com](mailto:donnasiders@hotmail.com) or by calling 260-571-1892. Sponsors would receive complimentary tickets to the event and on-site recognition in exchange for their support for only \$150.

**Wabash County Animal Shelter partnership to pair emerging readers with dogs, cats**

The local Literacy for Companionship program will be held on the third Thursday of each month, with the next one scheduled for June 17 at the Wabash County Animal Shelter, 810 Manchester Ave. The time will be split into 30-minute shifts from 4 to 6 p.m., with four children scheduled per session. There is no cost for the program and the parents or guardians will be with the children at all times. For more information, call 260-563-3511.

**Salamonie to hold Summer Day Camp and Family Overnight**

Upper Wabash Interpretive Services will hold a Summer Day Camp and Family Overnight program from Thursday, June 17 to Friday, June 18 at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Participants may expect forest discovery, hiking, live animals, crafts, games, water fun, canoeing and evening activities for camping families. Camping families should plan to bring their tents and camping gear. Campers from ages 7 to 12 need to bring their lunches each day. On Thursday, June 17, meet from 1:30 to 4 p.m. for the day camp portion. Activities will resume from 7 to 8 p.m. for a Sound Bite program. On Friday, June 18, meet from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is \$50 per child for both days and \$30 for one day. Additional siblings per family will receive a \$5 discount. A small snack will be provided each day. Advance registration is required by calling 260-468-2127.

**Salamonie Lake workdays continue throughout summer**

Salamonie Lake’s Upper Wabash Interpretive Services, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews, will host a variety of volunteer work-related activities. Check-in and instructions will be available at the Interpretive and Nature Center. The volunteer workdays will continue throughout the summer at 9 a.m. Monday, June 21; 9 a.m. Monday, July 26; 9 a.m. Mon-

day, Aug. 16; and 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 25. For more information, visit 260-468-2127.

**WCPL plans summer reading events**

For children in fifth grade and younger, Mystery Maker Bags containing crafts and science experiments will be available from the Wabash Carnegie Public Library (WCPL) every Tuesday and Friday. A special program will take place off-site at 10 a.m. each Wednesday. Storytime kits will be available for pick up on Thursdays, though advanced registration is required through the library’s online calendar, by visiting [www.wabash.evanced.com/kids](http://www.wabash.evanced.com/kids). Teen craft kits will be offered each Thursday and adults will have kits on Tuesday, June 22 and Tuesday, July 13. Registration is available for these kits but is not required. Tutorial videos will be available on the library’s Facebook page for these kits, as well. Youth services will be offering two book kits in June, including Dogman on Friday, June 11 and A Wolf Called Wander on Friday, June 25. Registration for these kits is required through the Children’s Room or the library’s online calendar. The WCPL Storywalk – located on Huntington Street at Paradise Springs Park – provides an outdoor space where several of the Wednesday morning programs will take place, along with the introduction of Adult Storytime from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. Tuesday, June 29. No registration is required and participants are encouraged to bring their lunch to the pavilion. A book discussion will also take place for adults at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 28. Registration and further details are available at the library’s online calendar.

**Project Learning Tree Workshop to be held**

Educators are invited to participate in a Project Learning Tree (PLT) K-8 workshop from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday, July 9 at the Salamonie Lake Interpretive and Nature Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The workshop fee of \$23 includes a copy of the guide. The fee is payable by check (made out to IFEF/PLT) or cash, payable on the day of the workshop. Bring a sack lunch. Beverages will be provided. Advance registration is required with a deadline of Friday, July 2. Limited space is available. For more information, call 260-468-2127 or email [trody@dnr.in.gov](mailto:trody@dnr.in.gov).

**Salamonie to hold Summer Forest Camp**

Salamonie Lake will be hosting “a unique outdoor day camp” from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday, June 28 to Friday, July 2 at Upper Wabash Interpretive Services, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Children ages 7 to 13 are welcome. Limited space is available. The cost per child is \$60 and \$55 for each additional sibling. Register and pay by Monday, June 14 and save \$10 per child. For more information and registration, call 260-468-2127.

**Indiana 114 to close for bridge maintenance near North Manchester**

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has announced the closure of Indi-

ana 114 near North Manchester for bridge maintenance. Crews will be working between Gene Stratton Porter Road and Rock-Springs Pike. Work is scheduled to last until early July. During the closure, motorists should use the posted detour of Indiana 13, Indiana 16 and Indiana 105.

**INDOT begins Indiana 13 and 15 Wabash River bridgework**

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has announced bridge maintenance work over the Wabash River on Indiana 13 and Indiana 15 in Wabash. The northbound lanes between Lafontaine Avenue and Miami Street will be closed to traffic. Motorists should use the posted detour of Lafontaine Avenue, Huntington Street and Market Street. The southbound lanes between Fulton Street and Dimension Avenue will be reduced to one lane because of the work. The work is set to wrap up in July.

**Indiana 15 lane closures to last through mid-summer**

Alternating lane closures are planned for Indiana 15. The work is happening between Indiana 13 and Wedcor Avenue. Widths will be restricted to 13 feet during the project and that loads wider than 13 feet should seek an alternate route using the nearest numbered state, U.S. or interstate routes. The work is scheduled to wrap up by mid-summer.

**YMCA to offer summer meals**

The Wabash County YMCA announced their free breakfast and lunch program for children ages 18 and under will be from 8 to 9 a.m. for breakfast and 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for lunch Mondays through Fridays, through Friday, Aug. 6, at 500 S. Cass St. For more information, visit [www.wabashcountyymca.org](http://www.wabashcountyymca.org) or email [info@wabashcountnymca.org](mailto:info@wabashcountnymca.org).

**‘Liking for Biking’ returns**

Through Saturday, Aug. 28, anyone of any age or skill lev-

el who is interested in a free, family-friendly hour-long bike ride is invited to meet at 8:45 a.m. each Saturday at Paradise Spring Historical Park’s upper pavilion, 351 W. Market St. Helmets are required. The next health assessment will take place at 8 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 28 inside of door 10 at Parkview Wabash Hospital, 10 John Kissinger Drive, while the rest of the rides will start at Paradise Spring Historical Park with wheels rolling at 9 a.m. Masks are required inside Parkview Wabash Hospital for health assessments. For more information, [www.visitwabashcounty.com/adventure-series](http://www.visitwabashcounty.com/adventure-series) or call 260-563-7171.

**Downtown Wabash Farmers’ Market running every Saturday**

The Downtown Wabash Farmers’ Market continues its 2021 season from 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays through Saturday, Sept. 26 in the Honeywell Center/Wabash Elks parking lot on the corner of Cass and Market St. Vendors are still being accepted for full-season, half-season and one-time rates. To become a vendor for the 2021 Market, visit [WabashMarketplace.org/farmers-market](http://WabashMarketplace.org/farmers-market) or call 260-563-0975. For more information about Downtown Wabash Farmers’ Market, visit [WabashMarketplace.org/farmers-market](http://WabashMarketplace.org/farmers-market).

**Honeywell Ladies Golf Association season continues**

The Tuesday Honeywell Ladies Golf Association (LGA) will begin their season with a 9 a.m. shotgun Tuesdays, according to Lana Garber. The yearly dues of \$15 will be taken then. New members are welcome. Arrive at 8:30 a.m. All Tuesday events are scrambles. Register in the clubhouse by noon Monday.

**Honeywell Pool to open on a limited basis**

Wabash Parks Department superintendent Adam Hall said the plan for the Mark C. Honeywell Pool was for the pool to be open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays each week. Hall said he would make the final

call based on how many lifeguards are available. For more information, visit [www.wabashcountnymca.org](http://www.wabashcountnymca.org).

**‘Explore Salamonie’ hikes to be held monthly starting Saturday**

Join Upper Wabash Interpretive Services for an “Explore Salamonie” hike at 5 p.m. during each month’s first Saturday through September at Salamonie’s Interpretive and Nature Center at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Wear appropriate footwear, clothing and bring along your water bottle, sunscreen and bug spray. A set of binoculars or camera may come in handy. Each hike is open to the public and geared for families. Each hike will last approximately 45 minutes to an hour. Registration is requested by calling 260-468-2127. Property entrance fees of \$7 per in-state vehicle and \$9 per out-of-state vehicle apply. State Park Annual Entrance Passes are available for purchase.

**DivorceCare meets Tuesdays**

DivorceCare, a 13-week DVD series sponsored by Wabash Friends Counseling Center, features some of the nation’s foremost Christian experts on topics concerning divorce and recovery, according to group leader Janet Quillen. The support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the Conference Room in the Wabash Friends Counseling Center, 3563 South State Road 13. Wearing a mask is required when entering. Quillen and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658, email office@wabashfriends.org, call 260-571-5235 or visit [www.divorcecare.org](http://www.divorcecare.org).

*Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to [news@wabashplainealer.com](mailto:news@wabashplainealer.com) no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.*

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Valedictorian, Lindsey Carter

Good evening teachers, administrators, parents, guests, and the Class of 2021. It is a great honor for me to be speaking in front of all of you today on this special occasion and the first of many milestones in our lives. From junior high and running around trying to find our classes in 4 minutes to senior year and just trying to do the bare minimum to graduate, we have all made it to this important achievement. We appreciate all the time, effort, dedication, and support that has been given to us these past years at Northfield High School, because we would not be here today without it. We thank our parents, families, friends, teachers and administrators who not only gave their time, patience and wealth of knowledge to get us here, but did so willingly. Thank you all! Now, I have known some of you for a very long time. Some of you since preschool, some since elementary school, and some from the past couple of years. I have



Salutatorian, Elise Gottschalk

Good evening! It is my pleasure to be standing here on behalf of our class. I would like to thank the families, friends, and staff members for making this ceremony happen. Everyone here tonight has had an impact on a senior in our class. Speaking of which, for those of you who know my dad, you know he's pretty emotional right about now. For those that don't know my dad, he will be the guy with red, puffy eyes. But hopefully we won't actually hear him crying. I would like to start off my speech by bringing everyone back to the beginning. Kindergarten, a time that was exciting and scary for everyone. We were going to a new school either at Sharp Creek or Metro North, getting new teachers, and making new friends and classmates. The nerves were rising as we approached August 12, 2008 our first day of actual school. We began to feel a little bit out of our comfort zone. No more playing at home, doing arts and crafts with our parents, no more sleeping in and waking up to watch Dora the Explorer and Diego. But, nevertheless, we were still really excited to start. On top of the transition to kindergarten, we also became the first class to switch to full day instruction, rather than half day. Looking back, we can be thankful that we were pushed outside of our comfort zones. I mean, I think now we can say we are the smartest class to graduate from Northfield so far, since we had to go to full day Kindergarten. Fast forward a few years to 3rd grade. At this point we were finally feeling comfortable at school. In our elementary school, we had figured out who the nicest teachers were, where all the classrooms were located, and what the best school lunches were. We were getting pretty comfortable...until we got the word of something called "reconfiguration." Metro North would now become KG-3rd grade, and Sharp Creek would become 4th-6th grade. The kids from Sharp Creek began to get nervous for the coming school year. We had to learn new teachers again, new classrooms, and we were going to be confronted with kids who already went to Metro North. The Metro North kids were pretty comfortable at their own school, but now they had to meet a whole new batch of kids and teachers. In the previous years, Metro North and Sharp Creek would not combine until 7th grade at Northfield, but we had to make this transition as little third graders. And again, we were pushed outside our comfort zones. But now looking back, we obviously have created the best relationships with our class because we came together as third graders and have been together the longest. Let's stay in 3rd grade for just a couple more minutes here. Parents, do you remember getting a note that your child would be taking a test called "I-READ," and if they didn't pass this test, they could not move on to 4th grade? As luck would have it, we were the first 3rd grade class to take this test. Our teachers were really pushed outside their comfort zones, we were pushed even harder in the classroom, and this test forced unnecessary pressure on us. But at least now we can say we are the best readers to graduate from Northfield because we had to take I-READ first. In 2015, we began our journey here at Northfield. Opportunities seemed endless over here across the parking lot. We got more flexibility scheduling classes, we got lockers and locker partners, and my personal favorite—we got to chew gum. Overall, being exposed to a whole new environment brought us out of our comfort

seen all of you grow into the people you are today. When I was first asked to write a speech, I was not sure what I wanted it to be about. I have thought about things I would say for awhile, but when I sat down to write this speech for this very moment nothing seemed to come to mind about what I wanted to actually say, but I knew I wanted my speech to be unique. I have heard humorous speeches, and although I would like to be as funny as some of my classmates here today, I don't think I am so I thought I should stick to something else. There are motivational speeches that I have seen about overcoming many obstacles, and even though everyone faces their own personal struggles, I have thankfully not had a life-changing challenge that I have had to face. My family has been the most supportive and encouraging people in my life who have always stuck by my side and have helped me when I have needed it the most. So I thought that I would talk about some of the things I have learned here that I feel like will be beneficial for everyone to hear. I have heard before that failure is necessary sometimes to create success. It builds us up and teaches us a lesson to become stronger and better than we were before. Although I always tried to remember the importance of this advice, I still did not like failing, and I would do everything in my power to make sure that it would not happen. Failure is not something we dream of. But sometimes failure cannot be stopped and it's an inevitable part of all of our journeys. Even though you can do everything you can to not fail, it does not matter, because circumstances sometimes do not work out in your favor. You can study all night for an exam, prepare weeks for a speech, or spend hours making something that seems to just not work. There will be times like this in life where you do get disheartened and feel like giving up would be the easier choice. But great successes are not made from people giving up, they are made from people allowing the failure to shape them into a stronger person with great determination. Failure is part of the success. We are not always going to make the right decisions and sometimes we will fall off the path we are taking, but we must never let failure stop us from doing anything that we are meant to do. There is a path meant for you, for all of us. Staying true to who you are in this world can be especially difficult if you do not know what you want to

zones. We learned new vocabulary from upperclassmen, sat awkwardly in the back of student sections not knowing if we really belonged, and we somehow found a way to get lost in Northfield's 4 hallways. These awkward, uncomfortable experiences made us the seniors we are today. During junior year we became pretty content with Northfield. At this point we found our sense of belonging, whether it was in the band, the choir, Spanish club with Senora, Campus Life, sports teams, theater, Heartland Career Center, or maybe you were just the biggest fan at every game. Everything seemed to be going really well until COVID hit. Our high school experience was completely altered when zoom became our most used app, we contacted our teachers for questions via email, and facetime calls were necessary to finish homework. It was nice to be out of school for a while, but what about the sports seasons, the plays, the concerts, the time with our class that we missed out on? Once again, we were pushed outside of our comfort zones, away from what we had become familiar with. This year, we have been able to attend school with minor alterations to our high school experience. We were blessed to resume school with a mostly normal year that included sports seasons, a homecoming, a senior sunrise, and our last prom. And since this year has been a somewhat typical senior year, we have been able to get more comfortable in the school again. As our high school career comes to a closing, we look towards the future with anxious anticipation. Some of us will be working, some will be attending college, some are playing collegiate sports, some have aspirations of being in the military, but everyone has one thing in common for the year to come. We will all be stepping outside of our comfort zones, once again, as a class. But I am confident that this next step will be a growing step for all of us, because that is what happens when we get pulled outside of our comfort zone. From the time we were born, a lot of what got us out of our comfort zones has been other people's choices. For example, we did not have a choice to reconfigure our elementary schools. We also didn't have the choice to go to school when there was a global pandemic. In other words, we were forced out of our comfort zones, we were forced into something unfamiliar. As we grow older and become more independent, the choice falls more onto us. One of my favorite pieces of advice I have encountered has been the phrase, "Do it afraid." While it seems counterintuitive, I challenge you to ponder that phrase for one second. How many times just in the past month have you wanted to do something but backed out because you were simply just too afraid to do it? When talking to some of our classmates who participated in the girls' basketball sectionals, regionals, and semi-state games this past season, I found over and over again that each of the girls were extremely nervous for these games. For those who don't know, the girls went on to win the sectional and regional title games. The feeling of reward after these hard-earned games was unmatched. All the nerves seemed so minute compared to the feeling of reward after the game. So, class of 2021, my first piece of advice to get outside of your comfort zone would be to feel the fear, and do it afraid. You will be glad you did. At the beginning of May, I was highly encouraged by some friends and family to give blood at our blood drive. Keep in mind that I was the kid at the doctor's office who you would hear screaming 3 doors down when it was time for Kindergarten shots. I thought about the opportunity, and decided to text Emma Brainard, the one who was running the blood drive. My text said something along the lines of, "Emma, I will give blood tomorrow if you need to fill a spot but I am really nervous so don't worry about it too much." Walking into school that morning, Addi Baker overheard me saying that there was a chance I was going to give blood. She asked me if I would take her spot since she wasn't able to donate

do in life. Even for the people who do know what they want to do, it can be hard to feel seen or heard in such a large crowd of people wanting to do that as well. When I attended my cousin's graduation a couple years ago, I remembered the speaker and his words about how it does not matter if you know or do not know what you want to do with your life, the most important thing is to stay kind. People remember how you make them feel and as part of the future generations of this world, I believe that is a great reminder to better the world around you while on your own journey. My sister, who is here today, actually graduated from Northfield a couple years ago and some of you may know her. She actually kept the speech that she wrote when she was a senior, and even though she did not get to speak at her graduation, I found a great amount of wisdom in what she said. I have always admired her and her strength to always be kind and do what is right. I was able to grow up in her shadow, and I was able to see her not only conquer but succeed in overcoming her own learning difficulties. She not only encouraged me, she inspired me to be better when I didn't always want to be. I think we all have that "person" that challenges, encourages and ultimately lifts us up when we need it. Her journey to become an elementary teacher also inspires me. I have learned that inspiration can come from everyone we meet in life. People come in and out of life, but there is always a purpose. Some people are sent to help us grow and they are just passing through. Not everyone is meant to stay. But while they are there, they become a part of who we are, good or bad. Just like us today. We are all going our separate ways but will always be a part of each other. It is always important to remember that happiness and pain make us stronger. We all wish for happiness, but the pain we endure is what helps us learn, and without it, we would never grow. I have realized that no matter what I say, we are each going to remember different parts of this moment that mean the most to us, and that is what makes this so special. I cannot wait to see what the future holds for each one of us, and I don't want to drag on any further as I know all of you are excited and anxious to finally walk across this stage. I would like to thank everyone for listening to me speak, and if I don't get to say goodbye to everyone, I wish you all the best, and nothing but the best. Congratulations. Thank you!

blood that day. I said "Sure," but really I was freaking out on the inside. Long story short, I survived 7 whole minutes of giving blood, and my nervous blabbering to the guy taking my blood led to an inspiring conversation. After he wrapped my arm up, I looked at him, thanking him multiple times for not stabbing me too badly, and I said, "Well that wasn't as bad as I thought it would be." He laughed and replied back, "Yeah... I have found out that if things were as bad as people made them out to be, then nobody would do anything. If giving blood was as horrible as some people make it sound, then there would never be any blood donated." Think about how different our world would look if people were too scared to make that step out of their comfort zone, based on how someone else portrays it. What if nobody ever went to school to be a surgeon because everyone says the schooling is just too hard? What if nobody went into the military because everyone says it's too much hard work? The future might seem pretty scary in life, but I guarantee it is not as bad as it looks. My second piece of advice to you is when you look outside your comfort zone, and think it looks too daunting, remind yourself that things are not as bad as they seem. Senior year we get a lot of questions like "What are you going to do next year?" And "What are your future plans like?" A lot of us respond acting like we have our whole lives planned out, but really we have no idea where our paths will take us. Yes we have somewhat of a plan, but we never know when something unexpected will happen. It can seem like your plans are ruined when you blow out your knee in a volleyball or basketball game, and maybe you even re-tear it again. You might get unexpected news that a parent was just diagnosed with cancer. Maybe a pandemic ruins your school year, cancels all your extracurricular activities, and leaves you wondering what you can do now. Or maybe it's something as small as rain on a prom day. We can write out our plans in pencil, but in life there are things that are just inevitable. If you are a Christian like myself, you might ask yourself, "how could God allow this to happen? This isn't how it's supposed to be! This isn't in my comfort zone!" Finding peace outside of your comfort zone is not easy. It's pretty easy to have faith in yourself when things are going well. But when things get a little more tough, a little more out of your comfort zone, I encourage you to find your peace in God. Psalm 18:32 says, "It is God who equips me with strength, and he makes my way perfect." In other words, God does not call us to do things we cannot handle. So, my last piece of advice to you is when you get anxious outside of your comfort zone thinking about the trials before you, look to God for the comfort you desire and the peace you deserve. Class of 2021, we have been extremely blessed to have each other as company for the past 13 years. Not very many senior classes get to travel on a plane to Florida together in the midst of a pandemic, thanks Sincroft and Myers. While next year we will all be going different paths, I challenge you to remember the times we were all drug outside of our comfort zone, and grew from it. Remember to confidently face new challenges, to do them afraid, remind yourself that things aren't as bad as they seem, and most importantly look to God for guidance in your life. To wrap up this overly long speech, I would once again like to encourage you all to make a conscious effort every day to step away from what's comfortable. A few years ago, one of my favorite people challenged me to step outside of my comfort zone, and I cannot help but think how boring these last few years would have been if I would have stayed in it. So, I am challenging you with those same words of wisdom. As a class, we have proven already, that great things come when we step outside of our comfort zones. Thank you, and dad, I hope you made it through the speech okay.

